

Off the air, due to Summer Hiatus,
most of July, except during Republican
and Democratic Conventions.

L.I. P. & G. Monday, July 7, 1952. (Chicago, Repub. Green.)

VOTE

Good Eve. Everybody! - Have you heard
how

Here in Chicago, General Eisenhower has just won the first
victory in the Republican National Convention of Nineteen
Fifty-Two. ^{well, win it he did!} The Convention adopted ^{the Eisenhower} his compromise proposal in
the dispute over delegates. ^{PP} Actually, there were two compromises -
offered. (The Eisenhower people suggested that all delegations
in dispute be kept from voting on whether or not other delegates
disputed be seated - with the exception of such disputed delegates
as the National Convention had okayed by a majority of two-thirds.)

That would leave sixty-eight delegates - not permitted to vote.
These - from Texas, Georgia, and Louisiana. (This was a
compromise of an original Eisenhower demand, which would have
affected ninety-six delegates from Southern states. The
compromise being - in the matter of twenty-eight whom the
National Committee had okayed by a two-thirds majority or better.)

The Taft people refused that Eisenhower offer, and
came back with one of their own. They would accept the compromise,
if seven of the delegates from Louisiana were exempted - which
would leave sixty-one delegates [^] not allowed to vote in cases
of other disputed delegations.

counter
So that was a compromise - and it was the first to

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to to a vote. It was turned down. The Taft counter-proposal rejected by the Convention, 658 to 548; an Eisenhower margin of over a hundred.

There was one laugh-when the delegation from Puerto Rico insisted on being polled. The delegation numbers-three, and nobody could figure why it had to be polled, all three Puerto Ricans. But those three Puerto Ricans had their way - and drew a laugh.

The defeat of the Taft compromise settled it. The Eisenhower proposal did not go to a roll call vote. It was adopted, without opposition. Completing this first round victory for General Eisenhower.

DISTURBANCE - FOLLOW VOTE

The tense, belligerent atmosphere is illustrated by the fact that - even the Sergeant^S-at-Arms got bawled out. You'd expect big political figures to take a lashing from the opposition in a hot political fight - but the Sergeants-at-Arms, who sometimes take themselves quite seriously, don't usually have to take a beating from a Convention Chairman, as they attend to their duties of seating delegates and preserving order.

But, emotions were exacerbated from the ~~XXXX~~ start. The proceedings got going more than an hour late, which created no end of impatience among the twelve hundred delegates on the Convention floor. There were shouts of "Get going!" Which swelled into a great chorus - "Get going!"

That brought about the first official words in the Republican National Convention of Nineteen Fifty-Two - a couple of most informal words.

Acting Chairman Guy Gabrielson said: "Okay boys." Then he banged his gavel, and the Convention was on its way - with Gabrielson emitting

the solemn kind of oratory that usually prevails at national conventions. But the real spirit was - "Okay boys."

(The bitter battle of the delegates began in a quiet way, with a ~~top~~ ^{Taft} representative making a routine suggestion - that rules of previous conventions be adopted. That was immediately challenged by Governor ~~Lang~~ Langlie of Washington, speaking for the Eisenhower forces.) He offered a compromise resolution, which would keep delegates-~~in~~dispute from voting to seat other delegates in dispute.

That brought on the uproar - a storm of cheering and booing. There was turmoil on the Convention floor, crowds blocking the aisles - holding things up for twenty minutes. Acting Chairman Gabrielson banged away with his gavel, and shouted: "We're not going to proceed as long as the delegates persist in staying in the aisles." That did little good, and then the Sergeants-at-Arms got it. It was their job to clear

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the aisles, and they were not doing it efficiently. Gabrielson called out irately, saying - he wished they'd take their jobs a little more seriously.

So the Sergeants-at-Arms cleared the aisles, but ten minutes later they were clogged again - and the bedeviled Sergeants had to do the job all over again.

At last, the debate got going, each side limited to one hour. (The oratory was abundant, but it all ~~boiled~~ boiled down to two contentions:- The Eisenhower contention - that, under the old ~~the~~ rules, the Taft forces were out to steal Southern delegations. The Taft contention - that the rules should not be ^{changed} in the middle of the game.

Then the vote - and the Eisenhower compromise was adopted.)

DOORS - FOLLOW DISTURBANCE

Here's a later bit of news - which explains some of the disturbance. At the Convention Hall, exit doors were broken open. They had been sealed - but the seals were cracked. And - the head of the Convention Hall ushers declares that anybody, entering with proper credentials, could have opened up those exit doors from the inside, and let a couple of hundred people in. ^{Once again} So, there's no telling how many unauthorized individuals attended the opening session of the day.

GOVERNORS

One entertaining feature in the battle of delegate contests was - a simultaneous back-flip by three governors. Taft supporters - who, last week, joined twenty other G.O.P. Governors - in advocating ^{the} change of rules demanded by the followers of General Ike. Which made a political sensation, especially because of those three backers of Taft - Governors J. Bracken Lee of Utah, Lem Jordan of Idaho, and Norman Brunsdale of North Dakota.

So they're now the ones who reverse themselves.

They admit they joined in the manifesto issued by the Governors, upholding the Eisenhower contention - ^{but they} explain that they meant it ~~as~~ ^{as} a sort of broad generality. Governor J. Bracken Lee of Utah says he signed the statement as an appeal ^{to} ~~from~~ the Republican National Committee - "to see that everything that was done was above reproach." Those are his words - as the three Governors for Taft came around to the Taft view ^{today} /- in the battle over the rules change.

McKELDIN

We're still some days away from the balloting to choose a candidate. But, (twenty-four votes, hitherto in doubt, would seem to be as good as cast today. The Maryland delegation pledged to a favorite son, Governor McKeldin.) He never pretended to any notion that he might run for president - and made it clear that he would step out in favor of one of the real candidates for the nomination. Taft or Eisenhower - which would it be?

There's no direct answer - only indirect. ~~But it~~ comes to the point, nevertheless.

(Governor McKeldin will place General Eisenhower in nomination. So announced by the Governor, himself,) and by the campaign management for General Ike.

~~He~~ The favorite son will take the lead in championing the General - a sign that Eisenhower will get the Maryland votes. An indirect sign - but what more could you ask for?

GENERALS

Before I left home, in Dutchess County, New York, I asked a number of neighbors - what one thing did they want to know most about the convention? One lady simply gasped out her question - "What will MacArthur say?" She wanted me to give a report on that in advance - here in Chicago. So - should I venture a guess?

Well, that keynote speech, which we will soon be hearing, points up the most dramatic and stately aspect of this Republican Convention - a contest between two Generals; whose careers have been remarkable interwoven.

There's plenty of rumor - picturing the two men as hostile to each other. But this appears to be exaggerated - at least according to a systematic survey of the facts by Military Writer Hanson Baldwin in the New York Times. He pictures the two Generals as thrust apart chiefly by conflicting policies. That - aggravated

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by minor personal angles.

But now about a guess concerning what MacArthur will say tonight. My surmise would be that he will not assail President Truman directly. But that he will blaze away against the foreign and domestic policies of the administration, without making the president a personal target. Of course, the former -----

Supreme Commander in Tokyo has every reason to resent bitterly the way he was dismissed from one of the exalted positions on this earth. But, after all, General Douglas MacArthur, though not in uniform tonight, is still ^{theoretically} on active duty in the United States Army - and the President is his Commander-in-Chief.

So I suppose that MacArthur, the soldier, will refrain from personal attack on Harry Truman. That's my guess, followed by a prognostication that is no guess at all, *that* The MacArthur keynote speech will ring and vibrate with exalted expressions of American patriotism.

ARRIVAL

Here's an experience that's a commonplace for hundreds of thousands of Americans -- arrival in Chicago. Nothing to it, ordinarily -- getting off train or plane, and taking a taxi. Today, though, that experience was memorable. When we got off the train, we ran into a reception - obviously to welcome some top-flight political figure. Chicago has been having these festivities, one after another. A milling crowd, a battery of television cameras, still photographers running hither and thither, and ~~the~~ news reporters ready to pounce on their victim.

Standing next to me was a delegate, wearing a badge. He said the reception was for - Ex-President Hoover, elder statesman of the Republican party.

So the delegate and I got to talking, and it turned out that he was from Colorado - my old home state. ~~But~~ A dentist from the town of Trinidad. He told me that, in the Colorado delegation, there would be a big switch from Eisenhower to Taft. Later on, I ran into Paul Hoffman, co-manager ~~in~~ of the Eisenhower

campaign. I mentioned the reported Colorado switch, from the General to the Senator - and he denied it, with sharp language.

At the railroad station, former President Hoover appeared, coming from his train. The crowd jamming around him, policemen clearing the way, television lights beaming in his face, reporters alongside, hammering away with questions.

I was tempted to add a question or two of my own, but I merely ~~xxx~~ spoke a brief greeting. Seventy-eight years old, our only living ex-President - erect, head high, calling for party unity.

He was accompanied by his younger son, Allan, his beautiful daughter-in-law, and grandson Allan Jr. And - by Larry Ritchie, his old-time secretary of White House days - and Jeremiah and Kitty Milbank. Remarkable - how those who served under Herbert Hoover remain so intensely loyal to the "Chief" - unchanging all down the years.

Going to a taxi, I bumped into an old friend,

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Veteran Diplomat Arthur Bliss Lane, one of our foremost Ambassadors, a few years back - who also served under President Herbert Hoover. He too was there to greet his old chief. Ambassador Lane criticized the sharp answer that Eisenhower Manager Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, made - in rejecting the Herbert Hoover proposal to compromise the battle over disputed delegations. He said the Lodge reply made a bad impression on many leading Republicans - and that friends of the "Chief" were indignant about it.

I asked Ambassador Lane how things were going behind the scenes in the delegate fight, and he gave me advance notice of the headline that was to come later in the day. He said that Pennsylvania and Michigan had decided to support the Eisenhower motion.

Shortly afterward, I learned that other states, like California, were joining the movement - leading to a first round victory for General Ike, in the battle of the delegates.

There of course is the usual convention

pandemonium. Bands and orchestras everywhere, playing against each other -- Over There, Anchors Aweigh, The Air Corps Song, Tipperary, all ^{at once,} ~~these~~ Such great ~~thick~~ throngs trying to get upstairs at the Hilton Hotel, ~~that~~ you have to stand in line, a line over a block long. T V sets ^{on} all sides of the main reception rooms at the Eisenhower and Taft Headquarters. The T V sets out of focus in the Eisenhower room - in focus at the Taft headquarters. Women with I LIKE IKE stenciled all over their dresses. Others with a large red Taft on their blouses. ^π A chap named Dewey came up and confided to me at the Taft headquarters that there was a strong movement on to draft MacArthur. This Dewey by the way no relation to the Governor of ~~NY~~ ^{NY} New York. Congressman Frank Busbee of Illinois, ~~saying~~ and prophesying that the final ticket will be MacArthur and Senator Knowland of California.

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One of my neighbors back in Dutchess County, is Elliott Bell now a top figure in the great McGraw Hill Publishing Company. But, in the last campaign

he was a master mind in the ~~Emmy~~ Dewey camp. Just after Church yesterday, he said he wished I would find out today how real is this fight over delegates. Is it something of a sham battle and will they finally sit down and work it out? One of the first things I did was ~~to~~ try and get an ~~me~~ answer for him. I took this question to one of the top Republican figures out here, Walter Hoving. His reply was that at the moment it looked ^S like ~~now~~ neither side ~~had~~ ^{will} give in. That there ^{if have to} ~~might~~ be a compromise ticket!

Right now we are all waiting for that MacArthur keynote speech. Which may turn out to be one of the dramatic moments of ~~at~~ our time. Or will it?

Anyhow, that's the story of one man's arrival in Chicago today, ending when I got through a dozen ~~at~~ traffic jams, ^{arriving at my special} ~~to my~~ broadcasting headquarters, just around the corner from this rather incongruous Convention Hall. My offices are with the Percheron Horse Association of America. Which ought to be good for a laugh. But the percheron is a noble steed; and, laugh as much as you like, I'm broadcasting from the headquarters of a horse. *Solong until tomorrow.*